

**Council on Postsecondary Education
November 7, 2005**

Data Research Initiative

The first meeting of the Kentucky Data Research Initiative Advisory Committee was held October 10, 2005. Co-chaired by President Layzell and Commissioner Wilhoit, the advisory committee was created by House Bill 267 (2005 Regular Session) and has membership from the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville research and information technology offices, the comprehensive universities, the KCTCS, local school districts, business and industry, the Economic Development Cabinet, and the Education Cabinet. The purpose of the committee is to analyze the current environment for grid computing and other related technologies and to establish the needs of researchers for grid computing resources with a special emphasis on sciences and health-related fields.

As a result of the meeting, four work groups were formed. The first work group will gather information and make recommendations about how to meet the demand of the university research community for computing resources and examine alternate models and platforms for grid computing. The second work group will determine the availability of desktop computers in the K-12 community for use by university researchers in a grid computing network. The third work group will explore models for education outreach by university researchers to students and teachers in Kentucky's K-12 system. The fourth work group will assess the possible economic development impact and potential for partnerships from the business community.

The work of the four work groups will be consolidated into a single report which will be presented to the legislature during the 2006 session.